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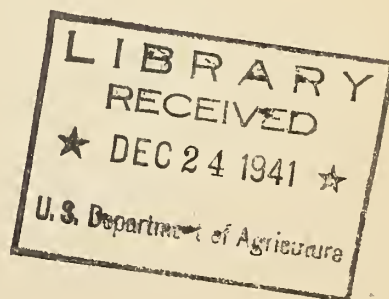
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Produced by Consumers' Counsel Division of the Department of Agriculture,
and presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies
of the United States Government working for consumers.

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1. ANNOUNCER: This is CONSUMER TIME.
2. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER
3. NANCY: That's your money buying food.
4. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
5. GUNNAR: That's your money paying for a home.
6. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
7. NANCY: That's your money buying clothes and the thousands
of other things you need.
8. GUNNAR: That's you . . paying for these things . . money
out of your pockets.
9. SOUND: CASH REGISTER - CLOSE DRAWER



10. ANNOUNCER: CONSUMER TIME today brings you facts that will make your pennies and dollars go farther and buy you more of the things you need. This program is produced by your Consumers' Counsel in the Department of Agriculture, and is presented in cooperation with Defense and non-Defense agencies of the United States Government working for consumers.

And here is your Consumers' Counsel in person - Donald Montgomery ----

11. MONTGOMERY: Greetings, everyone. I'm glad to welcome you back to CONSUMER TIME this week. I want to tell you some things later in this program, so until then I'll leave you in the capable hands of my reporters - Nancy Ordway --

12. NANCY: With an important tip on Christmas trees.

13. MONTGOMERY: And Gunnar Jagdmann ----

14. GUNNAR: Reporting on waste paper - material for war.

15. ANNOUNCER: And here too is that young inquiring consumer who is trying to do her bit for her country in every way she can - Mrs. Evelyn Freyman.

16. FREYMAN: Indeed I am trying to do my bit. And I'd like to find out right now just how I can help my country by saving waste paper.

17. GUNNAR: Well, apparently you already know that waste paper should be saved.
18. FREYMAN: Yes, Gunnar - I learned that lesson the hard way.
19. GUNNAR: The hard way?
20. FREYMAN: When it was too late. You see, we had stacks of old papers down in our basement, and I'd been after my husband for weeks to clean them out.
21. GUNNAR: And still the papers kept piling up ---
22. FREYMAN: Right. Till finally I decided to do the job myself. Spent a whole day at it - got the basement as neat as the proverbial pin. I could hardly wait till David came home to see it . . .
- (PAUSE)
23. DAVID: (ON CUE. FADING IN) Evenin', honey. (KISS) Dinner about ready?
24. FREYMAN: In a few minutes. David - I think there's something wrong with the furnace. I wish you'd look at it.
25. DAVID: Seems warm enough to me.
26. FREYMAN: I think you'd better take a look at that furnace, just the same.

27. DAVID: Okay, (TURNING OFF) I'll go down and see.
28. SOUND: FOOTSTEPS CLATTERING DOWN WOODEN STAIRS, OVERLAPPING
 ABOVE LINE. PANS ON STOVE ON MIKE. SPOON STIRRING
29. FREYMAN: HUMS SMUGLY.
30. DAVID: (OFF, SHOUTING) Evelyn!
31. FREYMAN: (INNOCENTLY) What?
32. SOUND: FOOTSTEPS BOUNDING UP STAIRS, TWO AT A TIME
33. DAVID: (FADING IN) Honey - who did it?
34. FREYMAN: I did.
35. DAVID: But it's wonderful! Those papers are all gone . . .
 kiss me (KISS) Where did you put them?
36. FREYMAN: I burned them.
37. DAVID: Burned them!
38. FREYMAN: (LAUGHING) I thought you'd be surprised.
39. DAVID: Surprised! Do you - do you realize what you've done?
40. FREYMAN: Why, yes - I've cleaned the basement and ---
41. DAVID: You've destroyed something that's needed.
42. FREYMAN: Needed? Old, stale newspapers?

43. DAVID: But don't you know there's a shortage of paper?
44. FREYMAN: Why, no, I ---
45. DAVID: But we're at war . . . when you're at war you don't burn up . . .
46. FREYMAN: David - please! I didn't do it deliberately!
47. DAVID: I - I'm sorry, honey. Of course you didn't.
48. FREYMAN: I'll never burn up papers again.

(PAUSE)

49. GUNNAR: (FADING IN) I guess you did learn the hard way, Mrs. Freyman. Hard on America too. Well, the Government is starting a nation-wide campaign to collect just that kind of stuff.
50. FREYMAN: But before our basement gets all cluttered up again, Gunnar, I want to know what we should do with old papers.
51. GUNNAR: Well, here in Washington - and in most every other city and town throughout the country - you can call your local waste dealer.
52. FREYMAN: Will he come and collect it?

53. GUNNAR: He will. And pay you money for it too. Or - if you'd rather give it to some organization - like the Salvation Army - just call them. They'll pick it up - and collect the money.
54. FREYMAN: But suppose I lived in the country - away from towns and waste collectors. Then what would I do?
55. GUNNAR: Then you'd get in touch with your county agricultural agent - or the county Department of Agriculture Defense Board. Boys and girls in the Four-H clubs will be gathering waste materials together from the various farms, for instance.
56. FREYMAN: And we're supposed to save every kind of paper?
57. GUNNAR: Everything. Letters, old wrapping paper, magazines, paper bags, cartons, boxes —
58. FREYMAN: What does the Government want with all those?
59. GUNNAR: Well, the magazines along with letters and other scraps of good-grade paper - will be ground up to make new paper.
60. FREYMAN: What about the paper bags and boxes?
61. GUNNAR: Well, those cheaper grades of paper - and newspapers too - will go to make more paperboard for more boxes.

62. FREYMAN: But I still don't see what paper's got to do with war.
63. GUNNAR: But practically everything a soldier wears is packed in paper at some time or another - everything he eats - all the ammunition he uses ---
64. FREYMAN: I never thought of that.
65. GUNNAR: Last year - in 1940 - America at peace used six million tons of paperboard. This year - preparing for defense - she used eight million. Next year America-at-war will need nine million tons, and it's up to us to provide it.
66. FREYMAN: Is all paperboard made from waste paper?
67. GUNNAR: Almost all of it. So y u can see what a loss it is for the Nation when three-fourths of all the paper produced in a year is destroyed.
68. FREYMAN: Three-fourths of it!
69. GUNNAR: That's how much goes into the garbage can - or the furnace.
70. FREYMAN: You mean that we consumers - in our homes - waste three-fourths of all the paper produced in this country?

71. GUNNAR: That's right. The average householder could save about a pound of waste paper every day - if he tried. That would mean about forty million pounds a day for the whole country - or more than seven million tons a year.
72. FREYMAN: Well, I should think women like me could form neighborhood committees - to see that papers are saved and collected.
73. GUNNAR: You certainly could. But don't stop at papers. Rags and rubber and metals are just as important.
74. FREYMAN: I can see I'm going to have to do some checking up.
75. GUNNAR: And don't forget to save your Christmas cards and Christmas wrappings as a present for Uncle Sam, too. We're starting our campaign to save waste paper right now - by not giving away a Tips card on waste paper.
76. FREYMAN: I'd hardly class those Consumer Tips cards as waste paper, Gunnar. To me they're a real saving.
77. GUNNAR: But a Tips card on waste paper wouldn't be much of a saving for you or us either. The one important fact to remember is that waste materials should be saved, and I guess we all understand that now. That's why there's no Tips card this week.

78. NANCY: (COMING ON MIKE) And I have some information about waste too, Mrs. Freyman. Some facts that will save life and property as well as money.

79. FREYMAN: What are these facts, Nancy?

80. NANCY: How to make your Christmas tree fire-resistant. And since it's too late to send you a Tips card on this, you'd better get a pencil and a piece of paper and take some notes.

81. FREYMAN: Well, I certainly welcome that bit of information. Last year we nearly had a tragedy.

82. NANCY: What happened, Mrs. Freyman?

83. FREYMAN: Well, my husband and I were invited over to the Miles' house on Christmas Eve. When we got there, Harry Miles was on a ladder trimming the tree . . .

(PAUSE)

84. HARRY: (OFF MIKE) Come on in, folks. David - how do these ornaments look from that angle?

85. DAVID: Seems to me you need some more there on the right side. No - lower down.

86. MOTHER M: (FADING IN, OVERLAPPING) Hello, Evelyn.
87. FREYMAN: Hello. My, what a beautiful tree!
88. BARBARA: Dad picked it out three weeks ago. He got a bargain that way.
89. HARRY: I sure did. Say, Barbara - hold that ladder steady!
90. BARBARA: Okay, Dad.
91. MOTHER M: Harry - every time you shake the tree, you drop pine needles all over the rug. I'm going to spread this cotton out to catch them.
92. FREYMAN: Isn't that rather dangerous, Mother Miles - having cotton so close to the fire?
93. MOTHER M: I don't see why - with the firescreen up. No sparks could go through that.
94. HARRY: Barbara - any more ornaments left in the box?
95. BARBARA: Here's one . . .
96. HARRY: The star! That's supposed to go 'way at the top of the tree.
97. MOTHER M: You should have put it up there first, Harry - before you got the others on.
98. HARRY: Don't worry. I'll get it all right.

99. MOTHER M: Watch out for that big silver ball. That's my favorite ornament.
100. HARRY: Yes, Mother . . (STRAINING) I - I can't reach . . .
101. DAVID: Pull that branch toward you. That's it.
102. SOUND: TINKLE OF ORNAMENTS
103. BARBARA: Dad - look out!
104. MOTHER M: Harry! The tree!
105. SOUND: CRASH OF TREE, LADDER, & HARRY, ORNAMENTS & FIRESCREEN
106. MOTHER M: (SOLICITOUS) Harry - are you hurt?
107. HARRY: (BEWILDERED) I - I don't know . . .
108. FREYMAN: Look! The tree's on fire!
109. MOTHER M: Fire!
110. SOUND: QUICK CRACKLE OF PINE NEEDLES
111. DAVID: Quick! Break off that branch!
112. MOTHER M: Oh, dearrrr!
113. DAVID: Here - I'll do it.
114. SOUND: BRANCH BREAKING
115. DAVID: Now if we pull the tree away from the fireplace . . .

116. SOUND: TINKLE OF BROKEN ORNAMENTS. CRACKLE OF FIRE FADES OFF.
QUIET.

117. FREYMAN: It's all right! It's all all right. Oh, David, you were wonderful!

118. MOTHER M: Wish I could say as much for my husband.

119. HARRY: Now, Mother - the tree will look all right too - if we turn this broken side to the wall . . .

120. MOTHER M: What! You dare to say that, Harry Miles - after the damage you've done? "All right" - with no ornaments? Why, you've even broken my silver ball!

(PAUSE)

121. NANCY: (FADING IN) Well, I think Mrs. Miles can be pretty thankful that the damage wasn't any worse.

122. FREYMAN: She certainly can, Nancy. If that fire had taken hold!

123. NANCY: Too many fires do take hold of Christmas trees. And this year - more, perhaps, than any other - we ought to take the greatest possible care to avoid them by making our Christmas trees fire-resistant.

124. FREYMAN: How can we make our trees fireproof?

125. NANCY: I said fire-resistant.

126. FREYMAN: What's the difference?
127. NANCY: Well, strictly speaking, you can't fireproof anything,
But you can fix things so they won't burn easily.
128. FREYMAN: How?
129. NANCY: Well, to begin at the beginning - it's always best to
buy a Christmas tree as soon as possible after it's
been cut. The Miles' tree must have been pretty dry
to shed needles like that. No wonder it burned!
130. FREYMAN: Well - supposing they did buy it just after it was cut -
how could they have kept it fresh?
131. NANCY: Just the way you'd keep flowers fresh. First thing -
soon as you get your tree home - cut off the end of
the trunk diagonally, at least an inch above the
original sawed end.
132. FREYMAN: First I cut a slanting slice off the trunk - at least
an inch above the end. Next?
133. NANCY: Next you stand the tree in water. A pail of water will
do till you're ready to use the tree. Then perhaps
your husband can rig up some other arrangement with
water in it.
134. FREYMAN: And the Christmas tree soaks up the water.

135. NANCY: Right.
136. FREYMAN: Does that make it resist fire?
137. NANCY: Not completely. But it won't burn nearly so easily as that tree of the Miles did. Of course, there are other rules you should follow too - if you want to avoid fire hazards at Christmas time.
138. FREYMAN: Such as . . . ?
139. NANCY: Such as not standing your tree too near the fireplace - and not spreading inflammable cotton around it.
140. FREYMAN: No doubt if we all observed those rules, there'd be a lot less unhappiness in what is supposed to be the holiday season.
141. NANCY: I hope more people will observe them this season. And now - I believe someone else here has some more advice for us.
142. SOUND: NOTE ON CHILE
143. ANNOUNCER: Your Consumers' Counsel - Donald Montgomery!
144. MONTGOMERY: Well, while Nancy here was telling you how to treat your christmas tree so it wouldn't catch fire so easily . . . I was thinking about Christmas tree fires I've started. I remember one of the big thrills we kids used to get the day after Christmas. We'd go to the store

(MORE)

where the trees were sold and ask the man to give us some to burn . . just so we could watch the flames spurt and sparkle . . and listen to the sharp crackle and splintery sound of the burning needles. And the smell too - do you remember that!

Now that I think of it, I wonder why those trees couldn't have been used to make some poor youngster's Christmas a little happier. Youngsters whose parents couldn't afford a tree. Seems too bad, doesn't it, that all those trees couldn't be made to serve some real purpose instead of just being burned up?

And what about other kinds of wastes - foods for instance? Last week we told you about how to buy to avoid wasting food. We told you that our farmers are being asked to grow more food . . especially the protective foods, like fruits and vegetables and dairy products and eggs.

Are we using all those foods that are grown, and which we need so badly?

One consumer out in Iowa doesn't seem to think so. She writes, "I am a little old lady, once well-to-do, but now living on \$18.90 a month pension. Fortunately, I know how to save, so I get along very nicely. But very few can get along as I do. That's why I want to call attention to the terrible waste of food in grocery stores.

(MORE)

